

## House Resolution No. 2297

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State grassroots projects that admirably enhance the quality of life in local communities and neighborhoods; and

**Whereas**, on Saturday, April 21, 2007, Zachary's Playground will open with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to conclude a project that has encompassed four years of planning and development and more than \$750,000 to bring to fruition; and

**Whereas**, Zachary's Playground is named in honor of six-year-old Zachary Blakemore, who has been diagnosed with pelizaeus merzbacher, a neurological disorder that makes it difficult for him to control his motor skills; and

**Whereas**, Zachary's Playground is a barrier-free playground accessible to all children, including those who have disabilities; and

**Whereas**, Zachary's Playground was originally envisioned by Zachary Blakemore's parents, Natalie and Todd Blakemore, who saw a similar park in Washington, D.C., and decided to establish the Unlimited Play organization as the foundation for their planned efforts; and

**Whereas**, in June 2005, two years of fund-raising efforts resulted in a groundbreaking ceremony attended by approximately 100 persons at the site of the future playground; and

**Whereas**, the city of Lake Saint Louis contributed two acres of land inside Hawk Ridge Park as the location for Zachary's Playground and subsequently donated \$55,000 in matching funds; and

**Whereas**, the Developmental Disabilities Resource Board of Saint Charles County added a total of \$205,000 to the fund-raising effort, and the National Park Service contributed \$150,000 from its Land and Water Conservation Fund:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the contributions of Unlimited Play to the establishment of Zachary's Playground in Hawk Ridge Park and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for a highly successful, fun-filled Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on April 21, 2007; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Unlimited Play.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Bob Onder  
District No. 13

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2297, adopted April 18, 2007.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker